

of Science & Technology and the Department of Atomic Energy also carry out studies relating to space sciences.

- (b) No, Sir.
- (c) and (d) Do not arise.

#### Accounting procedure in MPLADS

1364. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

- (a) whether even after seven years of the operation of the MPLAD Scheme, Government do not have a suitable accounting procedure, which is a great factor in financial mal-administration of the scheme;
- (b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and
- (c) what remedial steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) to (c) In accordance with the Guidelines on the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS), the Head of the District is required to get the works, as recommended by the MP, implemented by following the established procedure, i.e., he is to be guided by the procedure laid down by the concerned State Government subject to the Guidelines. Irregularities arise mainly due to non-compliance of the guidelines.

The Districts are maintaining the accounts of the Scheme as per the established procedure of the concerned State Government. No difficulty has been pointed out by Districts in maintaining the accounts of the Scheme nor has there been any problem in carrying out the field audit of the Scheme. The 'established procedures' vary from State to State. Hence uniform separate accounting procedure for the Scheme will not be in tune with the existing procedure of the State Governments. For these reasons, it has been felt that no separate accounting procedure for the Scheme is necessary.